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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/775,606

02/10/2004

Shun-Ker Wu

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34283

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01/25/2005

QUINTERO LAW OFFICE
1617 BROADWAY, 3RD FLOOR
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

EXAMINER

AUDUONG, GENE NGHIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/775,606 | Applicant(s) WU, SHUN-KER | |
| | Examiner Gene N Auduong | Art Unit 2818 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09-08-04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on September 08, 2004 is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1, lines 4-5, the limitation "a control line a and driving line" is unclear. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oishi (U.S. Pat. No. 6,349,065).

Regarding claim 1, Oishi discloses a method of driving and testing a semiconductor memory device, wherein the semiconductor memory device comprises a plurality of word lines and corresponding driving circuits, and each driving circuit is controlled by a control line [a] and driving line (col. 8, lines 15+): entering a testing mode (in a test mode), selecting a plurality of word lines controlled by a driving line (col. 8, lines 15+); enabling control lines corresponding to

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the plurality of word lines; enabling the driving line; and turning on the word lines, transferring a driving signal through the control lines to the word lines (col. 9, lines 14+; col. 10, lines 30+; col. 11, lines 15+).

Regarding claim 2, Ooishi discloses the method of driving and testing a semiconductor memory device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising after a predetermined time, disabling the driving line to turn off the word lines, while the control line remains in an enabled state (col. 14, lines 15+).

Regarding claim 3, Ooishi discloses the method of driving and testing a semiconductor memory device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor memory device is a DRAM (col. 8, lines 5+).

Regarding claims 4-5, Ooishi discloses the method of driving and testing a semiconductor memory device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the voltage signal of the control lines is pulled to a low potential level to enable the control lines to couple to the selected word lines (figure 5, P-type transistor 213 turns on when the a potential level control signal applying to the gate of the transistor 213).

Regarding claim 6, Ooishi discloses the method of driving and testing a semiconductor memory device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the voltage signal of the driving line is pulled from a high potential level to a low potential level to disable the driving line, and the control line remains at a high potential level (col. 14, lines 15+).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gene N Auduong whose telephone number is (571) 272-1773.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GA
January 10, 2005



Gene N Auduong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2818